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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

25 May 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento – Eight Guards and Seven Inmates Sent to Hospital After Brawl

(U) A fight between two California prisoners quickly raged out of control yesterday and forced correctional officers to open fire to stop a melee that sent eight guards and seven inmates to hospitals. Guards in three gun towers fired 19 bullets from semi-automatic rifles and three hard foam rounds to stop large groups of prisoners from attacking guards who were using pepper spray and batons to break up a fistfight at high-security Pelican Bay State Prison. Five of the seven injured inmates suffered gunshot wounds. One was airlifted to a different hospital for a higher level of care, said a spokeswoman for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Three inmates who were shot were admitted to hospitals and two were discharged back to prison, she said. All the injured guards were treated and released.

SOURCE: 24 May 2017, Sac Bee

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Treasury Blacklists Members of Mexican Drug Trafficking Group

(U) Washington – Yesterday, the United States blacklisted Mexican national Jose Luis Ruelas Torres for leading what the US Treasury Department said is a family organization that smuggles heroin across the border for sale in cities across the United States. The US Treasury also blacklisted nine other Mexican men and one Mexican woman it said were associates of Ruelas Torres' drug trafficking organization. The action means that any assets the people might have in the United States are frozen, and Americans are prohibited from doing business with them.

SOURCE: 24 May 2017, Reuters

(U) New York – Five Charged with Insider Trading Involving US Health Agency

(U) Manhattan – Five men, including a Washington political consultant and a federal employee, were charged yesterday with engaging in an insider trading scheme based on leaks from within a federal healthcare agency. Federal prosecutors announced the arrests of political consultant David Blaszczak, founder of Precipio Health Strategies; US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) employee Christopher Worrall; and Rob Olan and Ted Huber, employees of the healthcare hedge fund Deerfield Management. Prosecutors said that from 2012 to 2014, Olan, Huber and Fogel schemed to get confidential information about CMS's internal decision-making from Blaszczak. According to a related complaint by the US Securities and Exchange Commission, the scheme yielded \$3.9 million in profits and at least \$193,000 in consulting fees for Blaszczak's companies.

SOURCE: 24 May 2017, Reuters

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Egypt – US Embassy in Egypt Warns of Potential Threat

(U) Cairo – The US Embassy issued a security warning about a potential threat posed by a group it referred to as an extremist organization. In a security message, the embassy said, they aware of a

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potential threat posted on a website by the Hassm group, suggesting unspecified action yesterday evening. The embassy has no further information about this potential threat but is in contact with Egyptian authorities. The message urges Americans living in Egypt to follow security guidelines provided by the State Department for dealing with possible threats.

SOURCE: 24 May 2017, ABC News

(U) Germany – Nine Men Detained, Four Tied to Violent Extremism

(U) Berlin – Police have detained nine people, some with links to extremism. In a statement yesterday, police said the men were wanted on suspicion of organized drug dealing. Police said arrest warrants existed for three of those detained and a fourth person was due to appear before a judge yesterday. The other five men are still under investigation. Police also seized electronic equipment, narcotics, and weapons during the raids. Berlin police were criticized for failing to arrest a known drug dealer, Anis Amri, who subsequently drove a truck into a Christmas market killing 12 people. SOURCE: 24 May 2017, AP

(U) Russia – Four Arrested for Planning ISIS Attacks

(U) Moscow – Russia's main domestic security agency says it has arrested four members of the Islamic State in Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) who have been preparing attacks in Moscow. The Federal Security Service, or FSB, the main KGB successor agency, said the suspects arrested in Moscow today were preparing to strike at the capital's transport network. The agency said in a statement that the four were working under directions from ISIS to prepare attacks using self-made explosive devices. The FSB said that the suspects were planning to join ISIS in Syria after the attack. It didn't give their names, saying only the group included citizens of Russia and ex-Soviet Central Asian nations.

SOURCE: 25 May 2017, Washington Post

(U) United Kingdom – Hunt for Bombing Accomplices Extends to Libya

(U) Manchester – The police accelerated their hunt for co-plotters of the Manchester concert bombing, making at least a half-dozen arrests in Britain, and extending the investigation to Libya. The developments indicated that the bomber, Salman Abedi was part of a wider and more sophisticated plot than was initially thought. The father and younger brother of the suspect in the Manchester concert bombing have been detained in Libya. Hashim Abedi was detained in Tripoli Tuesday night, a spokesman for a Libyan anti-terror force said yesterday. The father, Ramadan Abedi was detained yesterday, shortly after a phone interview stating that his son Salman, was innocent and had been planning a religious pilgrimage to Mecca. New details about the bomb, based on forensic photographs from the blast site, showed it may have been hidden in a blue backpack, had been made with care to inflict horrific shrapnel damage, and had even been equipped with a backup detonation system.

SOURCE: 24 May 2017, NY Times and AP

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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